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Former Teacher Sentenced to Prison for Child Sex Abuse

A former teacher convicted of sexually molesting children was sentenced today to 12 years in state prison, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced

Robert Pimentel, 58, pleaded no contest on May 29 to four felony counts involving four victims: one count of continuous sexual abuse and three counts of lewd act on a child.

At the sentencing, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge James B. Pierce also ordered Pimentel to register as a sex offender for life. Additionally, the defendant was ordered to stay away from the victims for 10 years.

Deputy District Attorney Lee Ashley Cernok said Pimentel, a former teacher at George De La Torre Jr. Elementary school in Wilmington, sexually abused multiple girls between 2002 and 2012. The victims were between the ages of 6 and 10 when the abuse occurred.

In March 2012, one of the victims, a student in the defendant's class, revealed to her mother that Pimentel had been inappropriately touching her.

That student, along with several others, reported the conduct to the Los Angeles Police Department. LAPD investigators then identified other victims, including a relative of the defendant's.

The case was filed in January of 2013. The defendant has remained in custody since his arraignment on January 24, 2013.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles Police Department, Juvenile Division and the Newport Beach Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's OfficeLos Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the <u>Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office</u> prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.